#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Application of: Hechun Chen, et al.  | )                            |
|--|------------------------------|
| Serial No.: Unassigned   | ) Oroup Art Unit: Unassigned |
| Filed: July 26, 2001   | ) Examiner: Unassigned       |
| For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR AUTOMATIC END-TO-END PATH PROVISIONING FOR SONET NETWORKS | )<br>)<br>)<br>)             |

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

### In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- This application is related to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/661,203, entitled "Methods and Apparatuses for Providing Multiple Services from Any Slot in a SONET Systems Having Multiple Slots" and filed on September 14, 2000, and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/658,778, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Partitioning SONET Frames into Logical Channels to Optimize Bandwidth Utilization" and filed on September 11, 2000, the entireties of which are incorporated by reference herein. --

#### **REMARKS**

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0308 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

By:

Attorney for Applicant

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 34, 731

CIENA Corporation Legal Department 1201 Winterson Road Linthicum, MD 21090

Phone: (410) 865-8039

Facsimile: (410) 865-8001

# VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

5 09/661,203—, entitled "Methods and Apparatuses for Providing Multiple Services from Any Slot in a SONET Systems Having Multiple Slots" and filed on September 14, 2000—, and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/658,778—, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Partitioning SONET Frames into Logical Channels to Optimize Bandwidth Utilization" and filed on September 11, 2000—, the entireties of which are incorporated by reference herein.

This application is related to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No.